



132 E. Broad Street • Linden, MI 48451 • P.O. Box 507  
Phone: (810) 735-7980 • Fax: (810) 735-4793

## **Can I Keep Chickens in the City of Linden?**

First, it is your responsibility to determine if any private restrictions, such as deed restrictions, condominium master deed requirements, neighborhood association by-laws, or covenant deeds, may limit or even prohibit you from keeping chickens on your property. It is the property owner's responsibility to confirm whether any private restrictions apply.

**If no private restrictions apply, the keeping of chickens may be allowed in the City, provided that the following requirements can be complied with, and after securing a Zoning Permit from the City:**

1. You shall provide and maintain a yard, pen, shelter, or building for the confinement of the chickens
2. The yard, pen, shelter, or building shall provide not less than 3 square feet for each chicken kept, but not more than 300 square feet total
3. The yard, pen, shelter, or building shall comply with size, placement, and setback requirements applicable to accessory buildings
4. No yard, pen, shelter, or building shall be permitted within or closer than 25 feet from a state-regulated wetland
5. Chickens may only be kept by persons residing in a detached single-family structure for personal use only and not for any business or commercial use
6. The following maximum number of chickens may be kept:
  - Up to six chickens on lots less than one-half acre in size
  - Up to ten chickens on lots at least one-half acre in size but less than one acre in size
  - Up to 15 chickens on lots one acre in size or greater

7. The keeping of roosters is prohibited
8. Slaughtering is prohibited

### **Zoning Permit Application**

The keeping of chickens requires the submittal of a Zoning Permit application form to the City. The application form can be accessed here: [link to application form](#)

The application must be accompanied by a sketch plan indicating the location, design and height of the coop, details of any existing or proposed fencing, and all dimensions and the setbacks from the property lines.

The Zoning Permit application fee is \$50.

### **Detailed Code Requirements**

The detailed requirements for the keeping of chickens and other animals are found in Chapter 90 (Animals) of the Linden Municipal Code, which can be accessed here: [https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/linden/latest/linden\\_mi/0-0-0-1088](https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/linden/latest/linden_mi/0-0-0-1088)

Requirements pertaining to accessory buildings can be accessed here: [https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/linden/latest/linden\\_mi/0-0-0-4595](https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/linden/latest/linden_mi/0-0-0-4595)

Requirements pertaining to fences can be accessed here: [https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/linden/latest/linden\\_mi/0-0-0-5109](https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/linden/latest/linden_mi/0-0-0-5109)